

**Amendments to the claims:**

1. (currently amended) A linear guidance device, comprising:

an elongated guiding rail having an upper surface and at least one throughgoing opening extending from said upper surface for receiving a mounting element for mounting said guiding rail on a ~~higher-order unit~~ lower component;

a guidance car displaceably guided on said guiding rail in a longitudinal direction of said guiding rail~~[[,]]~~;

a cover band ~~attachable to the~~ bringable on an upper surface of said guiding rail and covering said at least one throughgoing opening ~~hole~~, said cover band being formed so that a limiting line of at least one of free ends of said cover band is formed so that when a point of the cover band which is located in said longitudinal direction of said guiding rail at a greatest distance forwardly ~~is in alignment~~ coincides with a boundary line of said at least one throughgoing opening in a direction extending substantially orthogonally to a plane of said cover band, a limiting line ~~portion of said limiting line~~ extending from said point at its side facing away from a longitudinal central plane of said cover band is arranged completely outside of a boundary line of said throughgoing opening.

2. (currently amended) ~~A linear guidance device as defined in claim 1~~ A linear guidance device, comprising:

an elongated guiding rail having an upper surface and at least one throughgoing opening extending from said upper surface for receiving a mounting element for mounting said guiding rail on a lower component;

a guidance car displaceably guided on said guiding rail in a longitudinal direction of said guiding rail;

a cover band bringable on an upper surface of said guiding rail and covering said at least one throughgoing opening, said cover band being formed so that a limiting line of at least one of free ends of said cover band is formed so that when a point of the cover band which is located in said longitudinal direction of said guiding rail at a greatest distance forwardly coincides with a boundary line of said at least one throughgoing opening in a direction extending substantially orthogonally to a plane of said cover band, a limiting line portion extending from said point at its side facing away from a longitudinal central plane of said cover band is arranged completely outside of a boundary line of said throughgoing opening,

wherein said limiting line, when said point of said cover band arranged at the greatest distance forwardly is arranged on said longitudinal central ~~line~~ plane of said cover band, is arranged completely outside of said boundary line of said throughgoing opening.

3. (currently amended) ~~A linear guidance device as defined in claim 1~~ A linear guidance device, comprising:

an elongated guiding rail having an upper surface and at least one throughgoing opening extending from said upper surface for receiving a mounting element for mounting said guiding rail on a lower component;

a guidance car displaceably guided on said guiding rail in a longitudinal direction of said guiding rail;

a cover band bringable on an upper surface of said guiding rail and covering said at least one throughgoing opening, said cover band being formed so that a limiting line of at least one of free ends of said cover band is formed so that when a point of the cover band which is located in said longitudinal direction of said guiding rail at a greatest distance forwardly coincides with a boundary line of said at least one throughgoing opening in a direction extending substantially orthogonally to a plane of said cover band, a limiting line portion extending from said point at its side facing away from a longitudinal central plane of said cover band is arranged completely outside of a boundary line of said throughgoing opening,

wherein said limiting line has at least one circular-arc shaped portion with a radius which is greater than a radius of said boundary line of said at least one throughgoing opening.

4. (currently amended) ~~A linear guidance device as defined in~~  
~~claim 4~~ A linear guidance device, comprising:

an elongated guiding rail having an upper surface and at least one throughgoing opening extending from said upper surface for receiving a mounting element for mounting said guiding rail on a lower component;

a guidance car displaceably guided on said guiding rail in a longitudinal direction of said guiding rail;

a cover band bringable on an upper surface of said guiding rail and covering said at least one throughgoing opening, said cover band being formed so that a limiting line of at least one of free ends of said cover band is formed so that when a point of the cover band which is located in said longitudinal direction of said guiding rail at a greatest distance forwardly coincides with a boundary line of said at least one throughgoing opening in a direction extending substantially orthogonally to a plane of said cover band, a limiting line portion extending from said point at its side facing away from a longitudinal central plane of said cover band is arranged completely outside of a boundary line of said throughgoing opening, wherein said limiting line is formed substantially completely circular-arc shaped.

5. (original) A linear guidance device as defined in claim 1, wherein said limiting line has at least one rectilinearly extending portion.

6. (currently amended) ~~A linear guidance device as defined in claim 1~~ A linear guidance device, comprising:

an elongated guiding rail having an upper surface and at least one throughgoing opening extending from said upper surface for receiving a mounting element for mounting said guiding rail on a lower component;

a guidance car displaceably guided on said guiding rail in a longitudinal direction of said guiding rail;

a cover band bringable on an upper surface of said guiding rail and covering said at least one throughgoing opening, said cover band being formed so that a limiting line of at least one of free ends of said cover band is formed so that when a point of the cover band which is located in said longitudinal direction of said guiding rail at a greatest distance forwardly coincides with a boundary line of said at least one throughgoing opening in a direction extending substantially orthogonally to a plane of said cover band, a limiting line portion extending from said point at its side facing away from a longitudinal central plane of said cover band is arranged completely outside of a boundary line of said throughgoing opening, wherein at least a part of said free end of said cover band is formed angled to said guiding rail relative to a main portion of said cover band.

7. (currently amended) A linear guidance device as defined in claim 6, wherein said angled part has an angle of substantially between 5° 5% and 10° 10%.

8. (currently amended) ~~A linear guidance device as defined in claim 4~~ A linear guidance device, comprising:

an elongated guiding rail having an upper surface and at least one throughgoing opening extending from said upper surface for receiving a mounting element for mounting said guiding rail on a lower component;

a guidance car displaceably guided on said guiding rail in a longitudinal direction of said guiding rail;

a cover band bringable on an upper surface of said guiding rail and covering said at least one throughgoing opening, said cover band being formed so that a limiting line of at least one of free ends of said cover band is formed so that when a point of the cover band which is located in said longitudinal direction of said guiding rail at a greatest distance forwardly coincides with a boundary line of said at least one throughgoing opening in a direction extending substantially orthogonally to a plane of said cover band, a limiting line portion extending from said point at its side facing away from a longitudinal central plane of said cover band is arranged completely outside of a boundary line of said throughgoing opening, wherein at least one part of said free end of said cover band has a thickness which is reduced when compared with a thickness of a main portion of said cover band.

9. (currently amended) A linear guidance device as defined in claim 1, wherein said at least one part of said free end of said cover band has a tapered ~~narrowing~~ shape.